11th August 1956]

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : May I know whether the Government will constitute an Expert Committee to go into the working of sales tax . . .

MR. SPEAKER : We are now on a different question.

Collectors' Conference at Ootacamund

* 54 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total cost to Government in connexion with the Collectors' Conference in Ootacamund in May 1956; and

(*b*) for how many days did the Conference meet?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) The Government consider that the time and labour involved in the collection of the particulars will not be commensurate with the public interest that it may serve.

(*b*) The Conference was held for three days on the 5th, 7th and 8th May 1956.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : May I know whether the inference that if the appropriate information were placed before the public it might be hardly creditable to the Government is also partly the reason for not answering the question?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Absolutely nothing of that sort. I am really unable to understand what is in the hon. Member's mind. Is he inclined to think that a heavy expenditure or unnecessary expenditure has been incurred in this connexion about which the Government are not willing to give out the information? If that is the feeling in his mind, I ask him to disabuse his mind of that feeling. I may tell him that no heavy expenditure has been incurred.

Setting up of a Board of Experts in sales tax

* 55 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government have received any communication from the Centre during 1956 with regard to the setting up of a Board of Experts in sales tax to study and improve the system for the levy of sales tax; and

(*b*) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The decision of the Government of India is awaited.